

gap is less there, no matter whether the educational level of the girls of those development blocks is weak; and

(e) what is the justification for not including all the educationally weak development blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e) The criterion for identification of Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) for the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme is blocks where the female rural literacy is below the national average and the gender gap in literacy is above the national average. The rationale is to prioritize blocks where gender discrimination is more. The Government of India has sanctioned 105 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas in Madhya Pradesh till date. Additional eligible blocks will be considered for sanction in due course.

### **IT University in Hyderabad**

452. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bill Gates proposes to set up an IT University at Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this University will be given a Central University status; and

(d) the action plan of the Centre to improve IT industry in Orissa with a view to generate additional employment opportunities in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration of this Ministry.

(d) The Central Government is taking various steps to promote the IT Sector throughout the country like reduction in excise and custom duties on IT-related items, setting up of Special Economic Zones, bringing approvals for FDI proposals related to IT sector under automatic route etc.